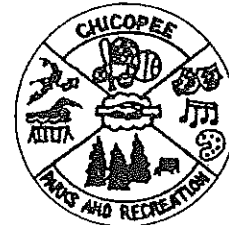


CITY OF CHICOPEE

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



STANLEY J. WALCZAK, C.P.R.P.
Superintendent

RICHARD G. MACIOLEK
Assistant Superintendent

Minutes of the regular meeting held on December 8, 2009

Commissioners present were: Chairman Gary Ziemba, Vice Chairman Robert Erhardt, Secretary Elizabeth Montemagni, and Commissioner Nancy Fenton. Also present was Superintendent Stanley J. Walczak and Assistant Superintendent Richard Maciolek. In the audience was Water Superintendent Alan Starzyk.

Chairman Ziemba called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Erhardt, seconded by Ms. Fenton, to suspend the regular order of business to hear from the audience guest. Mr. Starzyk informed the Parks and Recreation Commission of two plans to correct a water main problem that exists near the Bemis Pond area. Mr. Starzyk indicated the positives and negatives of each plan to the Commission. Motion by Mr. Erhardt, seconded by Ms. Fenton, to approve Plan A which will permit the Water Department to run the new line from Palmer Avenue by the Szot Picnic area to Abbey Memorial Drive. The Commission in its approval also granted the easement to utilize park property for this major reconstruction project. The Commission in its approval of Plan A stated that this option provided that least interruption of recreational services and damages to the Szot Park facility.

Motion by Mr. Erhardt, seconded by Ms. Fenton, to return to the regular order of business at 6:57 p.m.

Motion by Ms. Fenton, seconded by Mr. Erhardt, to approve the November 24, 2009 meeting minutes as written.

Under old business, the Commission is concerned about frequent cancellations of gym time by youth basketball teams. Commissioner Montemagni indicated that there was a lack of communication from the School Department regarding work repairs that effect our recreation programs. Commissioner Erhardt also indicated that there seems to be a lack of regard for completing projects timely which greatly penalizes our basketball teams having practices. He stated that the efforts by the Parks Department towards the school athletic programs are not being equally shared. Commissioner Montemagni asked if there was available gym time on weekends so that youth teams could gain additional practice times because of the unavailability of weekday practices. Assistant Superintendent Maciolek will check on accessible usage for teams.

Assistant Superintendent Maciolek indicated that there are 27 mens basketball teams participating. Leagues began last week and play until March. Final payment of league fees is due by January 4.

Superintendent Walczak reported that the Holiday Lighting Program went off without a hitch. The Department's Park employees & staff were responsible for establishing much of the colorful decorations, wreath ornaments and tree lighting installation as well as co-ordination of the Santa Workshop program.

Motion by Mr. Erhardt, seconded by Ms. Fenton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held at the call of the Chairman.

Respectfully submitted,


Elizabeth Montemagni,
Secretary